



WESTMINSTER DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
P.O. BOX 376 WESTMINSTER, MA 01473 - Tel. (978) 874-5572

Commissioners
Lorraine J. Emerson, Chairman
Vance A. Butterfield
Ross W. Barber

Joshua W. Hall, P.E.
Director of Public Works

WATER/SEWER RATE INCREASE NOTICE

Effective July 1, 2021 water and sewer rates will increase.

The new water rate for 2021 will increase from \$9.75 to \$10.15 per 1,000 gallons, with a minimum charge of \$30.45 for 3,000 gallons billed quarterly. For the average single family house that uses 15,000 gallons per quarter, the water bill will increase from \$146.00 to \$152.00 per quarter. Your cost could be less or more than this, depending on how much water you use.

The new sewer rate for 2021 will increase from \$21.13 to \$22.19 per 1,000 gallons, with a minimum charge of \$66.57 for 3,000 gallons billed quarterly. For the average single family house that uses 15,000 gallons per quarter, the sewer bill will increase from \$317.00 to \$333.00 per quarter. Your cost could be less or more than this, depending on how much water you use.

Rates are designed to recover costs for treating/distributing water; treating/collection of wastewater; funding infrastructure projects; and maintaining adequate reserves.

REASONS FOR THE RATE INCREASE:

- The City of Fitchburg increased sewer collection charges to Westminister and its customers by 7%. This increase is for continued upgrades to Fitchburg's wastewater treatment plant and sewer collection system in order to comply with EPA regulations.
- Increased operating costs and capital improvements to the aging water system and treatment plant.
- Adequate reserves for emergency repairs and system/capital upgrades need to be maintained.